United Nations A/62/436

General Assembly

Distr.: General
16 November 2007

Original: English

Sixty-second session
Agenda item 67

Indigenous issues

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Tebatso Future **Baleseng** (Botswana)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled: "Indigenous issues:

"(a) Indigenous issues;

"(b) Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People"

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee considered the item at its 19th and 39th meetings, on 22 October and 8 November 2007. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/62/SR.19 and 39).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it a note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people (A/62/286 and Corr.1).

4. At the 19th meeting, on 22 October, the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Social and Economic Affairs made an introductory statement (see A/C.3/62/SR.19).

5. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people made a presentation and engaged in a dialogue with the representatives of Cuba, Canada, Viet Nam, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Portugal (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Mexico and South Africa (see A/C.3/62/SR.19).

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II. Consideration of a draft decision proposed by the Chairman

6. At its 39th meeting, on 8 November, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people (A/62/286 and Corr.1) (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the Third Committee

7. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Document considered by the General Assembly in connection with indigenous issues

The General Assembly takes note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people.[1]

[1] A/62/286 and Corr.1.